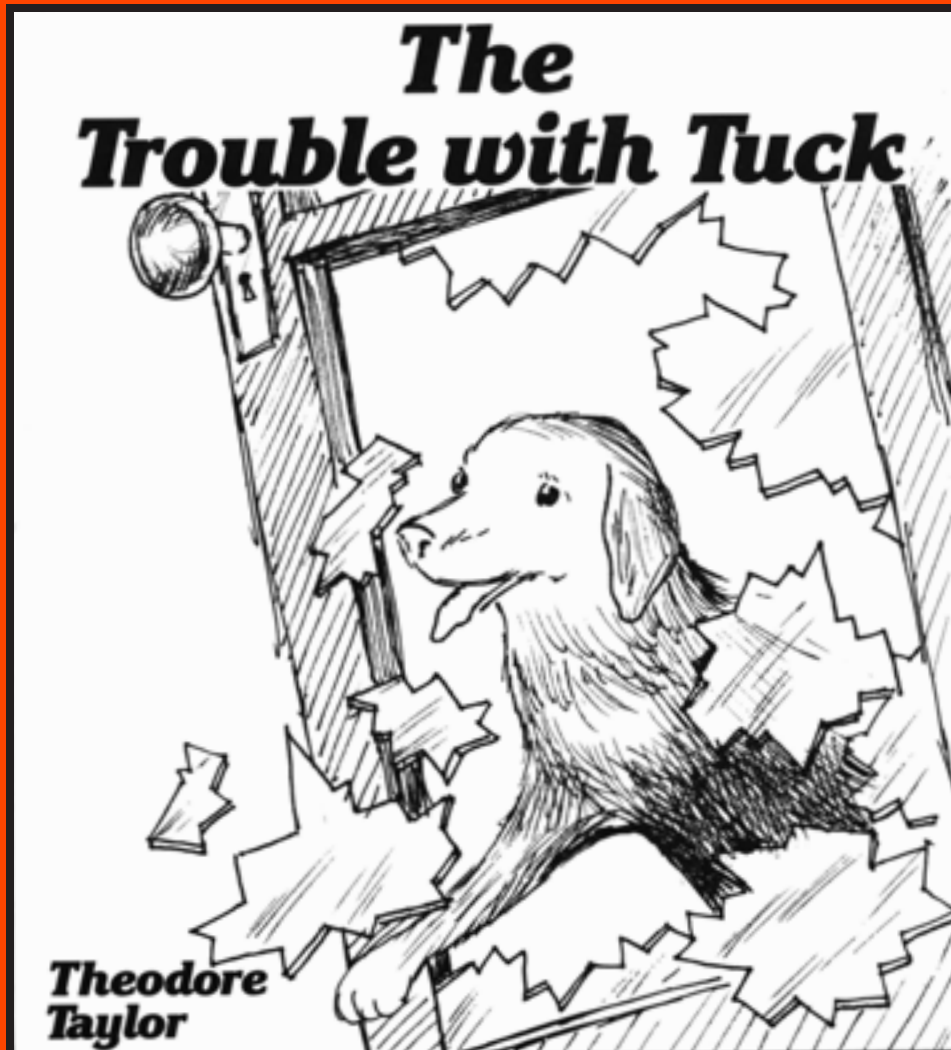


Novel·Ties



A Study Guide

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LEARNING LINKS

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For the Teacher

This reproducible study guide to use in conjunction with the novel *The Trouble With Tuck* consists of lessons for guided reading. Written in chapter-by-chapter format, the guide contains a synopsis, pre-reading activities, vocabulary and comprehension exercises, as well as extension activities to be used as follow-up to the novel.

In a homogeneous classroom, whole class instruction with one title is appropriate. In a heterogeneous classroom, reading groups should be formed: each group works on a different novel at its own reading level. Depending upon the length of time devoted to reading in the classroom, each novel, with its guide and accompanying lessons, may be completed in three to six weeks.

Begin using NOVEL-TIES for reading development by distributing the novel and a folder to each child. Distribute duplicated pages of the study guide for students to place in their folders. After examining the cover and glancing through the book, students can participate in several pre-reading activities. Vocabulary questions should be considered prior to reading a chapter; all other work should be done after the chapter has been read. Comprehension questions can be answered orally or in writing. The classroom teacher should determine the amount of work to be assigned, always keeping in mind that readers must be nurtured and that the ultimate goal is encouraging students' love of reading.

The benefits of using NOVEL-TIES are numerous. Students read good literature in the original, rather than in abridged or edited form. The good reading habits, formed by practice in focusing on interpretive comprehension and literary techniques, will be transferred to the books students read independently. Passive readers become active, avid readers.

CHAPTERS 1 – 3

Vocabulary: Draw a line from each word on the left to its definition on the right. Then use the numbered words to fill in the blanks in the sentences below.

- | | |
|----------------|------------------------------------|
| 1. calamity | a. annoyed; angry |
| 2. squabbling | b. something that causes suffering |
| 3. scoffed | c. arguing |
| 4. yelping | d. made fun of |
| 5. flaw | e. imperfection; defect |
| 6. exasperated | f. making sharp cries |

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- Like many children in the same family, my brothers and I seem to spend a lot of time _____ with one another.
- The puppy woke everyone with his _____.
- It would be a(n) _____ if the hurricane hit before we made preparations.
- The value of the ruby became much less when the buyer discovered that it had a(n) _____.
- After training the dog not to beg at the table, I became _____ when it ran into the dining room and snatched food from my plate.
- Although we _____ at the thought of rain on a sunny day, we carried our umbrellas just to be safe.

Read to find out about Helen's dog Tuck.

Questions:

- What signs showed that Tuck was having difficulty with his eyesight?
- Describe Helen as she was when she first got the puppy.
- How did Helen's parents make it clear that the puppy was hers and not the family's dog? How do you think Helen felt about that?

CHAPTERS 4, 5

Vocabulary: Antonyms are words with opposite meanings. Draw a line from each word in column A to its antonym in column B. Then use the words in column A to fill in the blanks in the sentences below.

- | <u>A</u> | <u>B</u> |
|---------------|---------------|
| 1. confirmed | a. diminished |
| 2. enlarged | b. tiny |
| 3. content | c. denied |
| 4. grudgingly | d. primitive |
| 5. massive | e. thin |
| 6. dense | f. willingly |
| 7. civilized | g. unhappy |

.....

1. The little puppy was _____ as long as it had a bowl of water and his owner nearby.
2. We had the photograph _____ so that everyone could see the details.
3. Because I had never gone to practice, the coach _____ gave me my award when I won the race.
4. According to Helen’s mother, a dog wasn’t _____ until it was housebroken.
5. The fire fighter’s daring rescue _____ our feelings that fire fighters are brave and smart.
6. The _____ fog made it hard for us to see the road ahead.
7. The _____ brick wall made it impossible for people to see the house from the street.

Read to find out how Tuck became a hero.

Questions:

1. How did Helen change after she got a dog?
2. How did Tuck show his loyalty to Helen in the park?
3. Why did Tuck become a hero? Do you think he deserved his reputation?